

REMARKS

Claims 2, 4-6, 9, 11 and 17-19, as amended, remain herein. Claims 1, 3, 7-10 and 12-16 have been canceled. Support for amendments to the claims may be found in the claims as originally-filed, and in the specification at p. 33, lines 3-19.

1. Claims 1-6 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Tsunoda JP2002/185874A. Claims 1, 3 and 15 have been canceled, mooted the rejections thereof. Regarding claims 2 and 4-6, Tsunoda fails to disclose a command transmission unit able to transmit a plurality of transmission commands, each having different characteristics, to the respective external devices through IEEE1394 lines, as recited in claim 2. The Office Action admits that Tsunoda fails to disclose connecting the television receiver to a plurality of external devices. Nor would it have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to connect the receiver of Tsunoda to a plurality of external devices and transmit signals having different characteristics to each external device. On the contrary, Tsunoda discloses only an "ON/OFF" signal transmitted from one transmission device to an external device. Tsunoda contains no disclosure that would have motivated one of ordinary skill to both connect to multiple external devices and output different transmission commands to each respective external device.

For the foregoing reasons, Tsunoda is an improper basis for rejecting claims 2 and 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

2. Claims 7-14 and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Tsunoda and Reisman U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0229900A1. Claims 7, 8, 10, 12-14 and 16 have been canceled, mooted the rejections thereof. As discussed above, Tsunoda

fails to disclose a command transmission unit for transmitting plural transmission commands each having different characteristics to the respective external devices, as recited in applicants' claim 9. Reisman fails to disclose what Tsunoda lacks. On the contrary, Reisman discloses only interconnecting multiple media devices of different classes. Nor would it have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify or combine Tsunoda and Reisman to disclose every element of applicants' claim 9. Neither Tsunoda nor Reisman discloses every element of applicants' claim 9, nor do they disclose any motivation that would have motivated one of ordinary skill to transmit transmission commands having different characteristics to respective external devices.


For the foregoing reasons, Tsunoda and Reisman are inadequate grounds for rejecting claims 9, 11 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all claims 2, 4-6, 9, 11 and 17-19 are now fully in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. If further amendments would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

Date: December 29, 2008

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger W. Parkhurst  
Reg. No. 25,177  
Adam C. Ellsworth  
Reg. No. 55,152

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP  
1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036-1795  
Tel: (202) 429-3000  
Fax: (202) 429-3902

Attorney Docket No.: 28951.1173